

Appln. No. 10/786,436
Amdt. dated February 21, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of November 18, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An insert for use as a mold component in a mold for the manufacture of a molded article, the mold having an inner surface defining a mold cavity, which cavity defines the shape of the molded article, the molded article having a field of integrally molded hooks on a surface thereof, the insert being sized and dimensioned to fit within a recess in the inner surface of the mold cavity, said insert comprising

a first surface having an area thereon that is a complement of the field of integrally molded hooks on the molded article, and
means for mounting said insert in the inner surface of the mold cavity.

2. (Original) The insert of claim 1 wherein said mounting means comprises one or more projections adapted to fit within corresponding depressions in the inner surface of the mold cavity.

3. (Original) The insert of claim 2 wherein said one or more projections comprise apertures for receiving means for fastening said mold insert to said mold.

4. (Original) The insert of claim 3 wherein said apertures in said one or more projections comprise a recessed region for receiving an end of said fastening means, such that the end of said fastening means is recessed with respect to the front surface of said projections when said insert is fastened to the inner surface of the mold.

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5. (Previously Presented) The insert of claim 4 further comprising means for providing a substantially smooth surface over said recessed region of said aperture.
6. (Original) The insert of claim 5 wherein said means for providing a substantially smooth surface comprises a cap that fits within said aperture in front of the end of the fastening means.
7. (Previously Presented) The insert of claim 6 wherein said cap comprises a removal appendage on the front surface thereof.
8. (Previously Presented) The insert of claim 1 wherein said mounting means comprises one or more retaining surfaces, said insert further comprising one or more retaining means that engage said one or more retaining surfaces.
9. (Original) The insert of claim 8 wherein said one or more retaining surfaces comprises a shoulder extending from a side of said mold insert, and said one or more retaining means comprises a retaining block having a surface that engages said shoulder.
10. (Original) The insert of claim 9 wherein said retaining block comprises one or more apertures for receiving a means for fastening said retaining block to said mold.
11. (Canceled)

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12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The mold insert of claim 14~~ A mold insert for use in a mold for molding an article having a structural feature on its surface, the mold having an inner surface that defines a cavity in which said molded article is formed, said inner surface having a recess therein,

said mold insert being sized and dimensioned to fit within said recess,

said mold insert having a first surface for forming said structural feature on the surface of the molded article, said mold insert comprising means for mounting said insert on said inner surface of said mold cavity

wherein said first surface for forming said structural feature comprises a plurality of

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hook-shaped cavities, said plurality of hook-shaped cavities forming a field of integrally molded hooks on a surface of the molded article.

20. (Original) The mold insert of claim 19 wherein said mold insert comprises a plurality of plates, each plate having a side edge, said plates being stacked together, with said side edges defining at least a portion of said first surface of said mold insert, said hook-shaped cavities being formed in said side edges.

21. (Original) The mold insert of claim 20 further including one or more spacer plates positioned between said hook-cavity plates, such that said field of integrally molded hooks on a surface of the molded article will be an array of spaced rows of hooks.

22. (Previously Presented) An insert for use as a mold component in the manufacture of a molded article, the mold having an inner surface defining a mold cavity, which cavity defines the shape of the molded article, the molded article having a structural feature on a surface thereof, the insert being sized and dimensioned to fit with a recess in the inner surface of the mold cavity, the insert comprising

a first surface having an area thereon that is a complement of the structural feature on the molded article, and

means for mounting said insert in the recess on an inner surface of the mold cavity, said mounting means comprising one or more projections adapted to fit within corresponding depressions in the inner surface of the mold cavity, said one or more projections comprising apertures for receiving means for fastening said mold insert to the mold, said apertures

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comprising a recessed region for receiving an end of said fastening means, such that the end of said fastening means is recessed with respect to the front surface of said projections when said insert is fastened to the inner surface of the mold, said insert further comprising means for providing a substantially smooth surface over said recessed region of said aperture, said means for providing a substantially smooth surface comprising a cap that fits within said aperture in front of the end of the fastening means.

23. (Previously Presented) A mold insert for use in a mold for molding an article having a structural feature on its surface, the mold having an inner surface that defines a cavity in which said molded article is formed, the inner surface having a recess therein,

said mold insert being sized and dimensioned to fit within the recess, said mold insert comprising means for mounting said insert on the inner surface of the mold cavity, said mold insert having a first surface comprising a plurality of hook-shaped cavities, said plurality of hook shaped cavities forming a field of integrally molded hooks on a surface of the molded article.

24. (Previously Presented) The mold insert of claim 23 wherein said mold insert comprises a plurality of plates, each plate having a side edge, said plates being stacked together, with said side edges defining at least a portion of said first surface of said mold insert, said hook-shaped cavities being formed in said side edges.

25. (Previously Presented) The mold insert of claim 24 further including one or more spacer plates positioned between said hook-cavity plates, such that said field of integrally molded hooks on a surface of the molded article will be an array of spaced rows of hooks.